

What is claimed is:

1. A hygroscopic composition, which comprises a liquid-absorbent resin and a solid deliquescent substance, wherein the liquid-absorbent resin is a crosslinked polymer obtained by polymerizing a monomer component comprising a major proportion of a cyclic N-vinylactam, and displays an absorption capacity of not less than 20 g/g for an aqueous saturated calcium chloride solution at 25 °C.

2. A hygroscopic composition according to claim 1, wherein the amount of the solid deliquescent substance per 1 part by weight of the liquid-absorbent is not larger than the amount calculated by the following equation (1):

Equation (1): Weight of deliquescent substance (part by weight) =

Concentration of deliquescent substance in deliquescence
(weight %) × Absorption capacity of liquid-absorbent resin
(g/g)

3. A hygroscopic composition according to claim 1, wherein the cyclic N-vinylactam is N-vinyl-2-pyrrolidone.

4. A hygroscopic composition according to claim 2, wherein the cyclic N-vinyllactam is N-vinyl-2-pyrrolidone.

5 5. A hygroscopic agent, which comprises a liquid-absorbent resin and a solid deliquescent substance, wherein:

the liquid-absorbent resin is a crosslinked polymer obtained by polymerizing a monomer component comprising a major proportion of a cyclic N-vinyllactam, and displays an absorption capacity of not less than 20 g/g for an aqueous saturated calcium chloride solution at 25 °C, and is blended with the solid deliquescent substance; and the resultant mixture is wrapped with a wrapping film of which at least a portion comprises a humidity-permeable film.

6. A production process for a hygroscopic agent comprising a liquid-absorbent resin and a solid deliquescent substance, wherein:

the liquid-absorbent resin is a crosslinked polymer obtained by polymerizing a monomer component comprising a major proportion of a cyclic N-vinyllactam, and displays an absorption capacity of not less than 20 g/g for an aqueous saturated calcium chloride solution at 25 °C; and the production process comprises the steps of: blending the liquid-absorbent resin and the solid

deliquescent substance; and wrapping the resultant mixture with a wrapping film of which at least a portion comprises a humidity-permeable film.

7. A hygroscopic agent, which comprises a liquid-absorbent resin
5 and a solid deliquescent substance, wherein:

the liquid-absorbent resin is a crosslinked polymer obtained by polymerizing a monomer component comprising a major proportion of a cyclic N-vinyl lactam, and displays an absorption capacity of not less than 20 g/g for an aqueous saturated calcium chloride solution at 25 °C; and the solid deliquescent
10 substance is arranged so that when the solid deliquescent substance has absorbed moisture and deliquesced to liquefy, the resultant liquid can come into contact with the liquid-absorbent resin.

8. A production process for a hygroscopic agent comprising a
15 liquid-absorbent resin and a solid deliquescent substance, wherein:

the liquid-absorbent resin is a crosslinked polymer obtained by polymerizing a monomer component comprising a major proportion of a cyclic N-vinyl lactam, and displays an absorption capacity of not less than 20 g/g for an aqueous saturated calcium chloride solution at 25 °C; and the production process
20 comprises the step of: arranging the solid deliquescent substance so that when the

solid deliquescent substance has absorbed moisture and deliquesced to liquefy, the resultant liquid can come into contact with the liquid-absorbent resin.

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